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現実を穿て、その染まりし拳で。
ヒーロマガ GP 2017 エントリー No.6
鶴吉 綸理

A HIDDEN REPORT.

TOPSECRET

17th,June,1924

The report about the investigation of the base development-

PREFACE

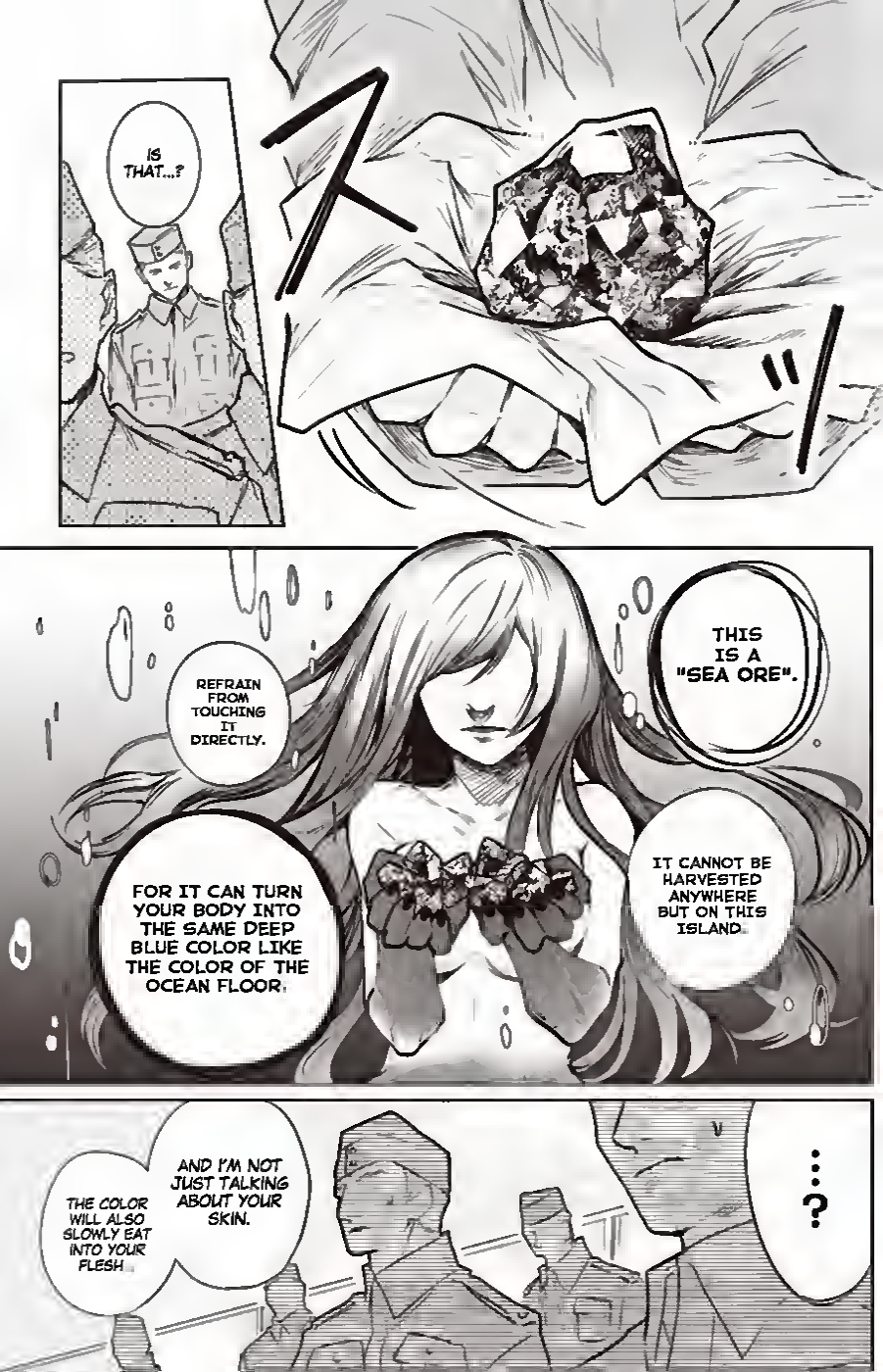
INSIDE OF THE ISLAND, THERE IS A CAVE WITH A LARGE TIDAL POOL
FOUND AN ISLAND AT LAT. 38°45'N AND 178°58'E.
AN AMERICAN FLEET LED BY CAPT. ROCKWELL
THERE, WE FOUND
HUMAN BONES THAT HAD CHANGED INTO ORE ON THE OCEAN FLOOR.

...nefer's Navy" fleet by Capt. Rockwell found an island in lat. 38° 49' N and ...

THOUGH, WE SHOULD KEEP IT IN MIND, THIS ORE MAY BECOME A PART OF THE MILITARY'S RESOURCES.

...human bon... keep it in mind, the ores may become the part of the military expenses.

WE ARE ALMOST THERE.
OKAY, I'LL GET READY.
CREDO.
FIRST OF ALL, I WILL BRIEF EVERYONE HERE ABOUT THIS OBJECT.


IS THAT...?
THIS IS A "SEA ORE".
REFRAIN FROM TOUCHING IT DIRECTLY.
IT CANNOT BE HARVESTED ANYWHERE BUT ON THIS ISLAND.
FOR IT CAN TURN YOUR BODY INTO THE SAME DEEP BLUE COLOR LIKE THE COLOR OF THE OCEAN FLOOR.
...?
AND I'M NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT YOUR SKIN.
THE COLOR WILL ALSO SLOWLY EAT INTO YOUR FLESH.

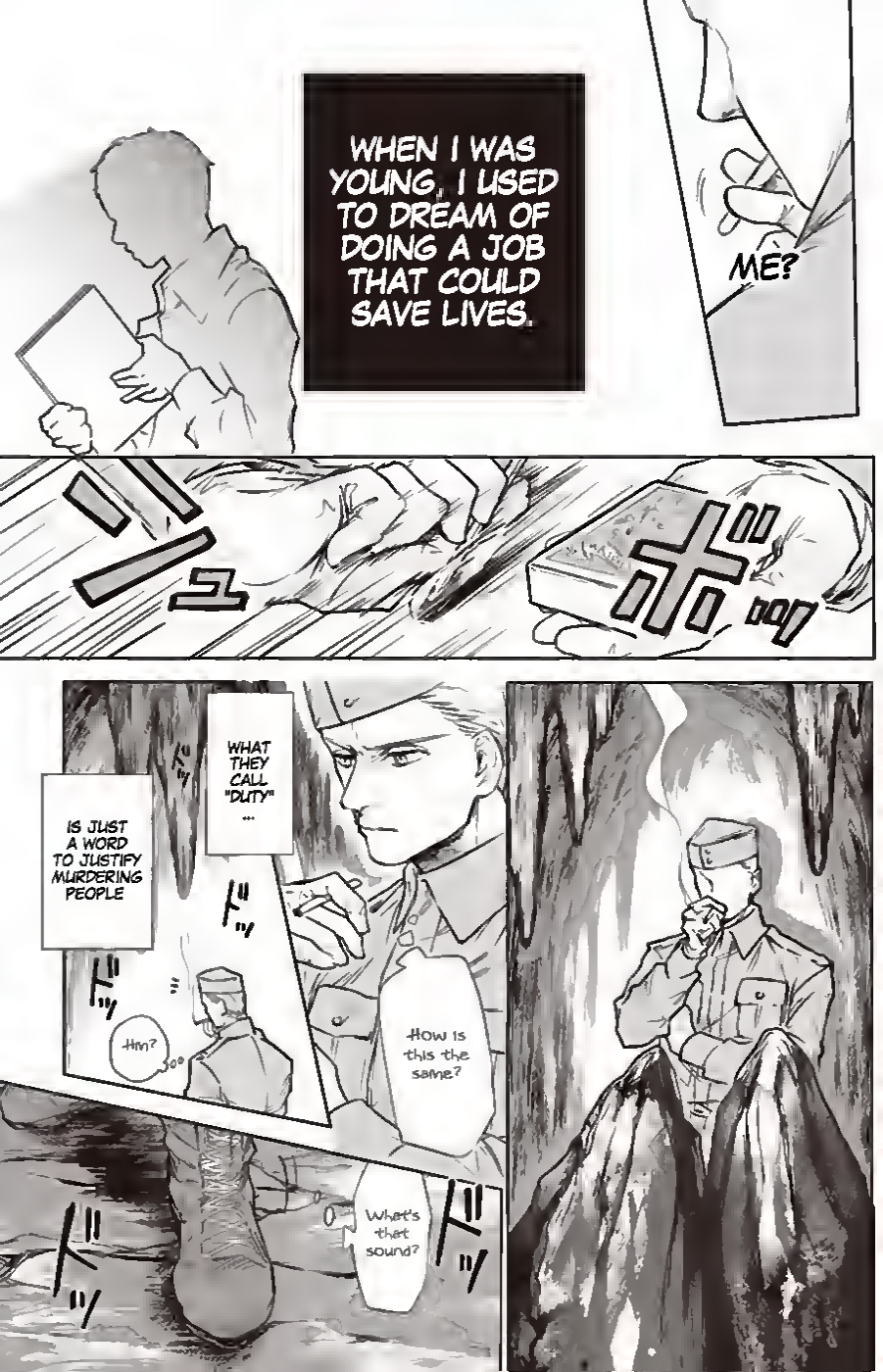
PEOPLE WHO ARE SENT TO HARVEST THE ORES, OR BONES IF YOU'RE FEELING CLEVER, WILL SLOWLY TURN INTO THE ORES THEMSELVES
YES... IN SHORT, OUR BODIES ARE ALSO A "MEDIUM" FOR THE ORES.
THAT IS WHY WE NEED YOU TO MONITOR THE "CYCLE" SO THAT IT WILL HAPPEN PROPERLY.
YES, YOU THERE, SON! WHY DON'T YOU TELL US?
AND... DO YOU KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER IT REACHES YOUR BONES?
...WHA!? UH...
THE...
THE BONES WILL ALSO TURN BLUE...?
BUT THIS IS YOUR "DUTY".
I'M SURE MOST OF YOU ARE A BIT OVERWHELMED, SINCE IT'S STILL YOUR FIRST DAY HERE.
THE LIMBS ONLY NEED TO FOLLOW THE BRAIN'S ORDERS WITHOUT CONDITIONS
IF THE STATES ARE THE BRAIN, THEN WE ARE ITS LIMBS
IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE WELL-BEING OF THE NATION
THAT IS ALL. I WISH YOU GOOD LUCK.

EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THESE WORKERS IS EITHER ON DEATH ROW, OR IS IN PRISON FOR LIFE. THAT'S WHY THEY WERE BROUGHT HERE FROM THE MAINLAND.
I'M NOT SURPRISED THEY BROUGHT DEATH ROW PRISONERS HERE...
BUT SURELY, THERE ARE MORE LENIENT JOBS FOR THEM ON THE MAINLAND...
LIKE, DIGGING TUNNELS, OR...

AND "REWARDS" FOR THEIR WORK TOO
THOUGH, I GUESS THIS PLACE DOES GIVE THEM SOME FREEDOM.
BEER
BEER
Rewards, huh.
...A KID?

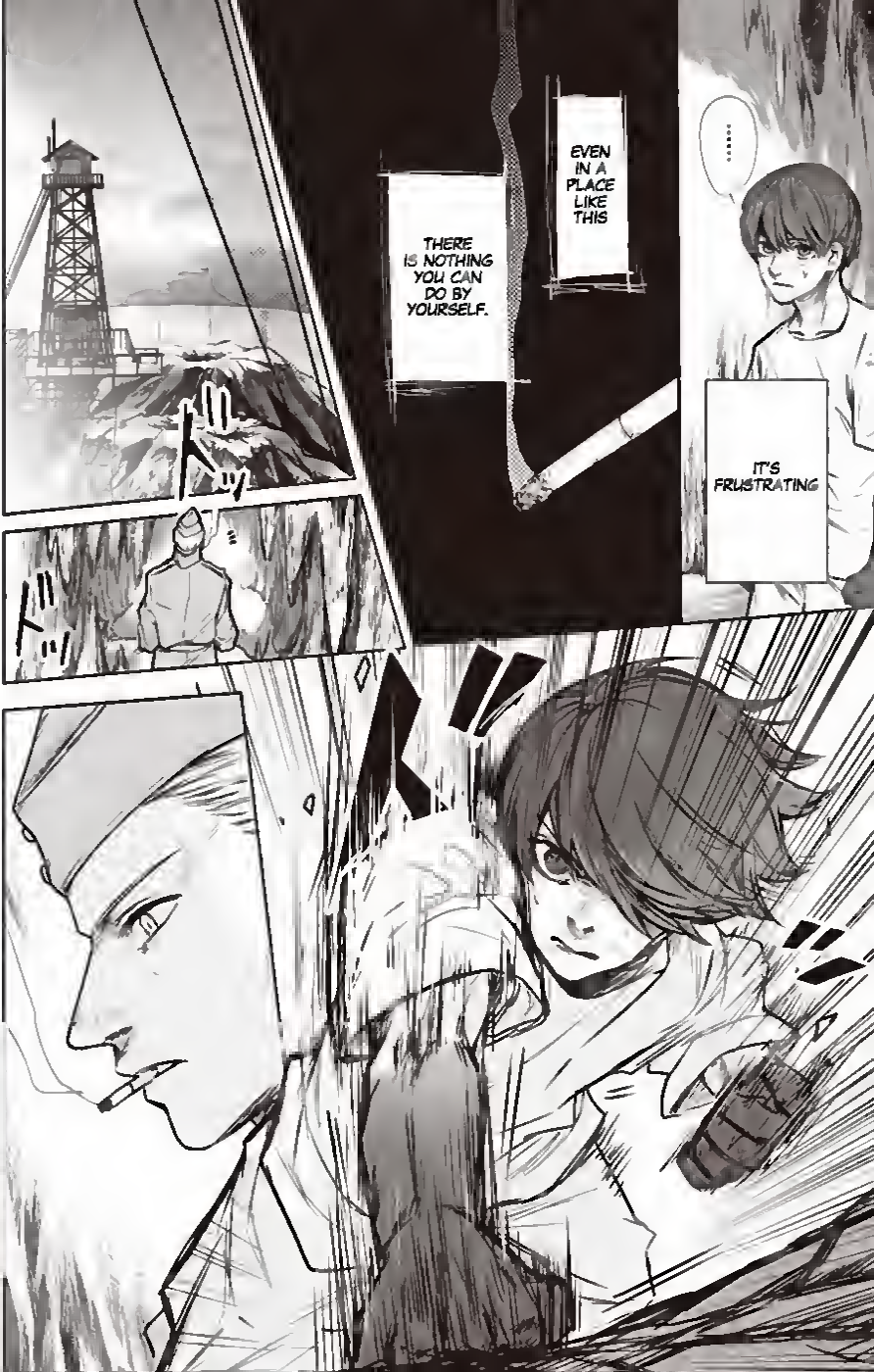
HE WAS BORN INSIDE THAT CAVE.
COULD IT BE...
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A KID BEING ON DEATH ROW BEFORE
YES.
I GUESSED RIGHT...
!
YOU HEARD ABOUT PREGNANT INMATES THAT GAVE BIRTH IN PRISON FROM TIME TO TIME, RIGHT?
IT'S LIKE THAT.
IT'S HARD TO KEEP A CLEAR CONSCIENCE, WORKING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU SEND HIM BACK?
IN THE END, WE ARE JUST LIMBS.

THE BOY WAS BORN HERE, AND WILL SPEND THE REST OF HIS LIFE HERE.
I'M TAKING SOME CIGARRETES AS WELL.
AH!
TEN OR MORE YEARS AGO, SOME SCOLARLY TYPE ANNOUNCED THIS "LINK BETWEEN SMOKING AND LUNG CANCER".
BUT IN MY OPINIONS, THESE GUYS ARE REALLY HEALTHY FOR MY HEART.
CREDO, WAIT...! YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN SMOKING TOO MUCH AS IT IS!
I HEARD THAT IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOUR BODY IF YOU...
I KNOW.
YOU KNOW A LOT...
DID YOU GO TO A MEDICAL SCHOOL BEFORE?
.....


WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I USED TO DREAM OF DOING A JOB THAT COULD SAVE LIVES.
ME?
WHAT THEY CALL "DUTY" ...
IS JUST A WORD TO JUSTIFY MURDERING PEOPLE
Hm?
How is this the same?
What's that sound?

THE BOY FROM YESTERDAY...?
But...
What is he doing?
Hitting a well...
Is he imagining taking a shot at the guards?
.....
THIS FEELING...
WHAT IS IT DOING HERE?

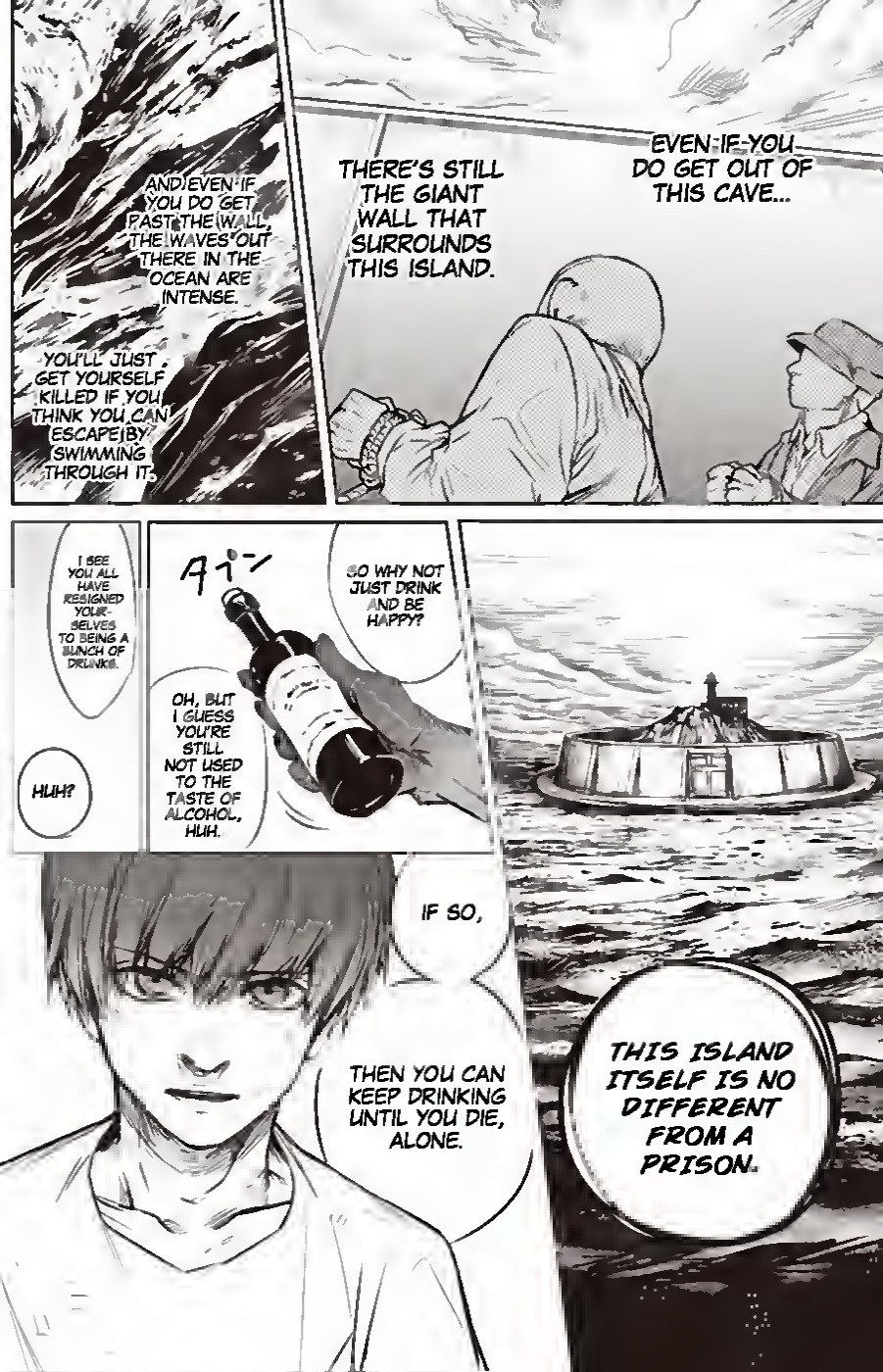
PUT YOUR LEFT FOOT BACK, TRANSFER YOUR BODY WEIGHT TO YOUR RIGHT FIST AND SWING IT ALONG WITH YOUR HIPS.
DON'T THROW YOUR PUNCHES LIKE THAT
IT'S PISSING ME OFF.
!
LIKE THAT.


EVEN IN A PLACE LIKE THIS
THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO BY YOURSELF.
IT'S FRUSTRATING

I wonder...
BUT AT LEAST HE'S GETTING BETTER.
IT'S STILL NOT GOOD ENOUGH...
IF HE HADN'T BEEN BORN HERE?
WHAT WOULD HE BE LIKE...
.....
!
FROM THAT POINT ON ...

I STARTED HITTING THE WALL ALONG WITH HIM
EVERY TIME THE BOY HITS THE WALL...
THERE WAS NO CONVERSATION BETWEEN US.
PEELING OFF FROM HIS ARMS, LITTLE BY LITTLE...
I SEE SOMETHING DARK...
THE ONLY TIME I EVER TALKED TO HIM, WAS WHEN I WAS GIVING HIM ADVICE.
.....
MAN.. I'M TIRED

YOU STILL DOING THAT DUMB SHIT?
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU? YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO SEE THE OUTSIDE.
YOU'RE CRAZY IF YOU THINK OTHERWISE.
.....
HEY.
YOU'RE THINKING OF BREAKING THE GATE THAT THE GUARDS USE TO GET OUT, AREN'T YOU? WELL, IT'S USELESS.
LEMME GUESS...


EVEN IF YOU DO GET OUT OF THIS CAVE...
THERE'S STILL THE GIANT WALL THAT SURROUNDS THIS ISLAND.
AND EVEN IF YOU DO GET PAST THE WALL, THE WAVES OUT THERE IN THE OCEAN ARE INTENSE.
YOU'LL JUST GET YOURSELF KILLED IF YOU THINK YOU CAN ESCAPE BY SWIMMING THROUGH IT.
I SEE YOU ALL HAVE RESIGNED YOURSELVES TO BEING A BUNCH OF DRUNKS.
HUH?
ポン
SO WHY NOT JUST DRINK AND BE HAPPY?
OH, BUT I GUESS YOU'RE STILL NOT USED TO THE TASTE OF ALCOHOL, HUH.
IF SO,
THEN YOU CAN KEEP DRINKING UNTIL YOU DIE, ALONE.
THIS ISLAND ITSELF IS NO DIFFERENT FROM A PRISON.

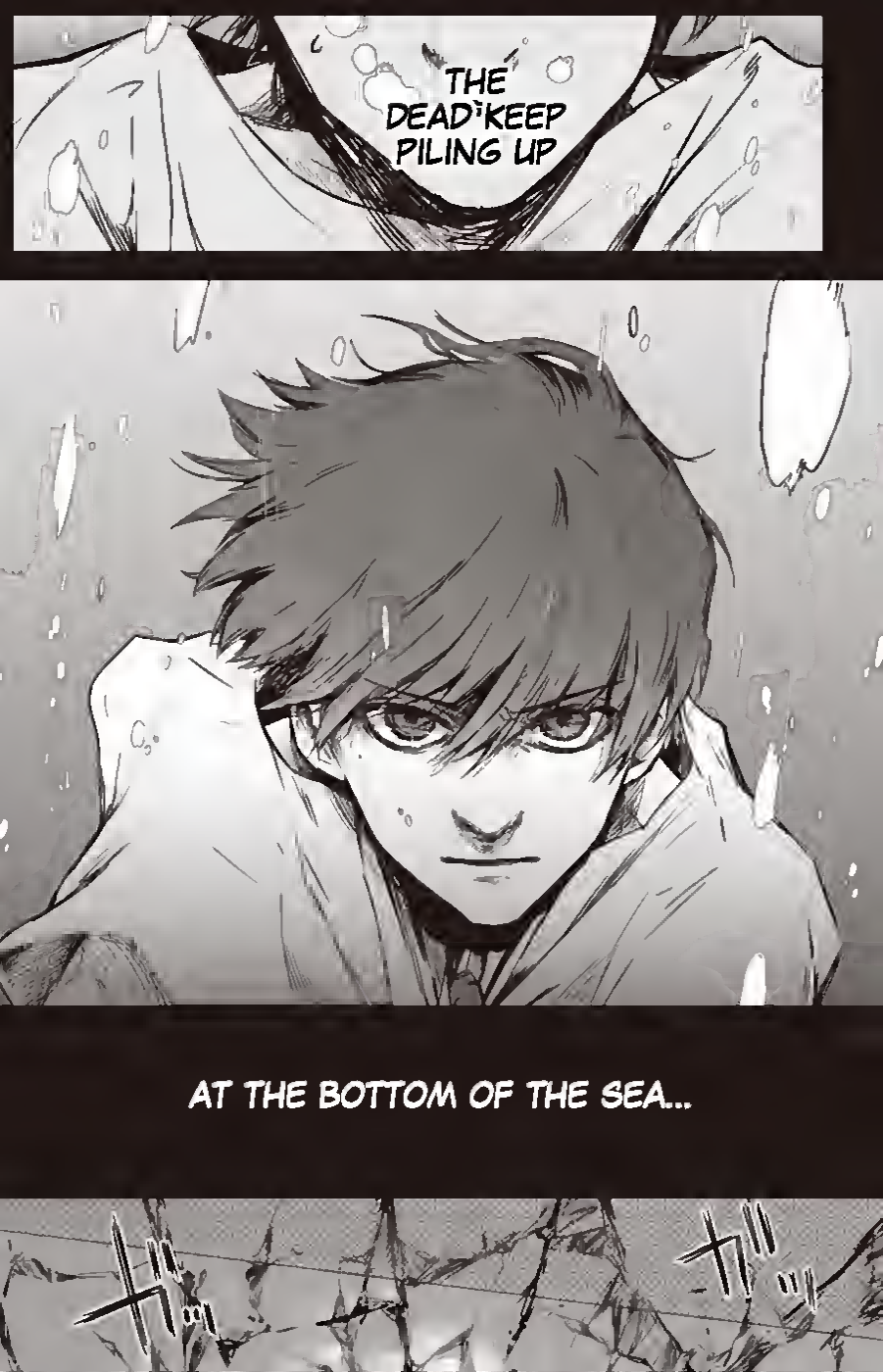
DUMB FUCK!
YOU CAN GO AND DIE FOR ALL I CARE, THEN!
AFTER A FEW DAYS...
PFFT!!
THE BOY STARTED TO SPEAK.
I NEED TO GET STRONGER.
SO I CAN OPEN A HOLE RIGHT HERE.
HUH?

HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN TRYING TO DIG THIS HOLE...?
STILL...
He's trying to dig a hole with just his fists?
This kid...
FOR SOME REASON...
TO SEE HIM SUCCEED.
EVEN THOUGH I KNEW HE COULD NEVER DO IT...
I STILL WANTED...
HEY.

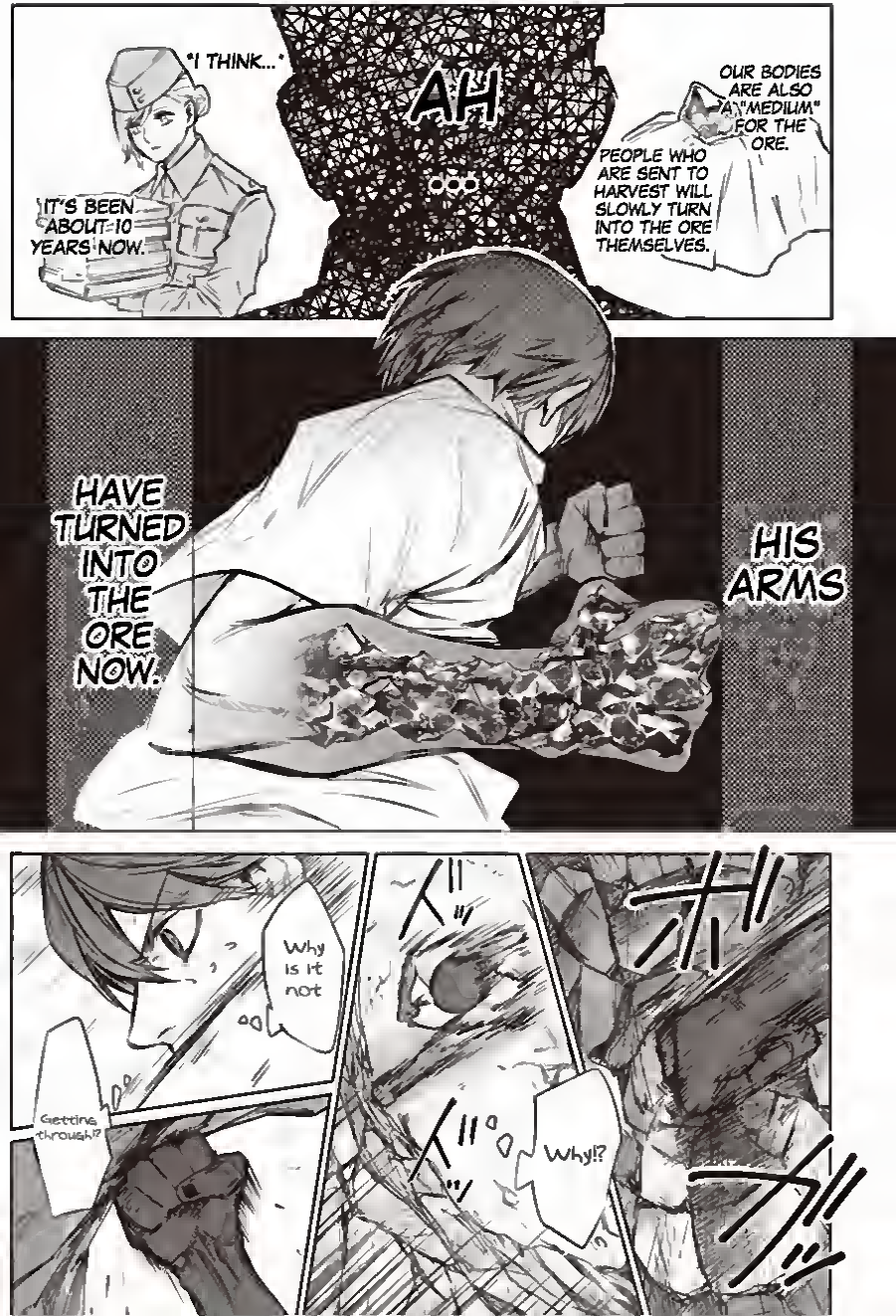
I THINK..
IT'S BEEN ABOUT...
10 YEARS NOW.
HOW LONG HAVE THEY BEEN HERE, HARVESTING THE ORES?
.....
NOTHING GOOD WILL COME OF IT.
IT'S BETTER THAT YOU DON'T THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT IT.

MY ARMS, AND LEGS...
ARE SO HEAVY...

It hurts...
ニチボ…

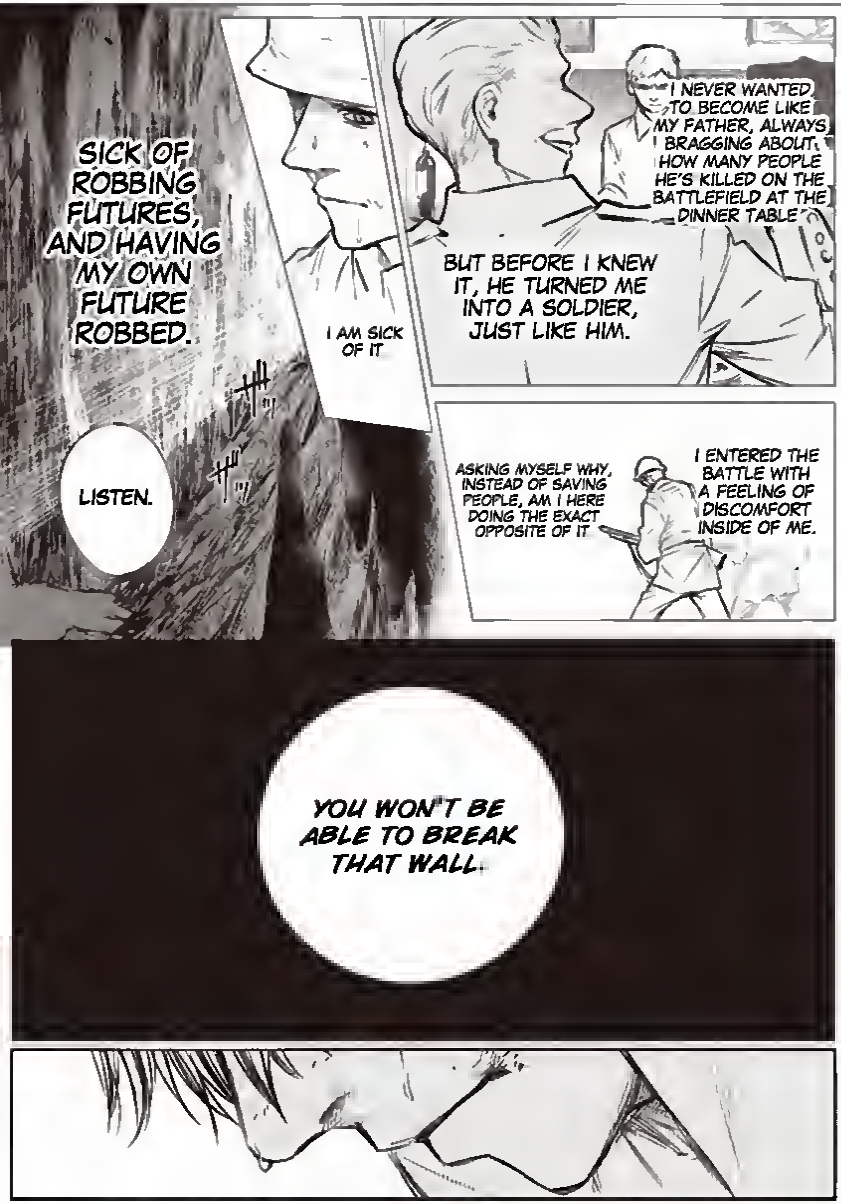

THE DEAD KEEP PILING UP
AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA...

HIS STRENGTH ISN'T NORMAL...
HOW COULD A NORMAL HUMAN BODY...
BE CAPABLE OF SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
It's like I'm in a comic.
HOW CAN THEY BEAR WITH THIS?
AND HIS BONES...


"I THINK..."
IT'S BEEN ABOUT 10 YEARS NOW.
AH...
OUR BODIES ARE ALSO A "MEDIUM" FOR THE ORE.
PEOPLE WHO ARE SENT TO HARVEST WILL SLOWLY TURN INTO THE ORE THEMSELVES.
HAVE TURNED INTO THE ORE NOW.
HIS ARMS
Why is it not
Getting through?
Why!?

"YOU'RE CRAZY IF YOU THINK OTHERWISE."
When I was young...

I WANTED TO BECOME A DOCTOR.


I NEVER WANTED TO BECOME LIKE MY FATHER, ALWAYS BRAGGING ABOUT HOW MANY PEOPLE HE'S KILLED ON THE BATTLEFIELD AT THE DINNER TABLE.
BUT BEFORE I KNEW IT, HE TURNED ME INTO A SOLDIER, JUST LIKE HIM.
I AM SICK OF IT.
SICK OF ROBBING FUTURES, AND HAVING MY OWN FUTURE ROBBED.
LISTEN.
I ENTERED THE BATTLE WITH A FEELING OF DISCOMFORT INSIDE OF ME.
ASKING MYSELF WHY, INSTEAD OF SAVING PEOPLE, AM I HERE DOING THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF IT.
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO BREAK THAT WALL.

BUT...
THERE IS ANOTHER WAY FOR YOU TO ESCAPE.
!
WHY?
I'LL TELL YOU THE STRUCTURE OF THIS ISLAND.
...HUH.

WHERE YOU WOULD GO FROM HERE
I'M JUST KINDA INTERESTED TO SEE...
삐삐
삐
SFX: ALARM

ALARM!
AN ALARM WENT OFF IN AREA E-4!!
@GROUP 2 HURRY TO THE LOCATION AND VERIFY THE PROBLEM!
IS IT AN ESCAPEE ..?
IT'LL BE FINE.
NO ONE CAN BREAK THROUGH THE WALL AT E-4.

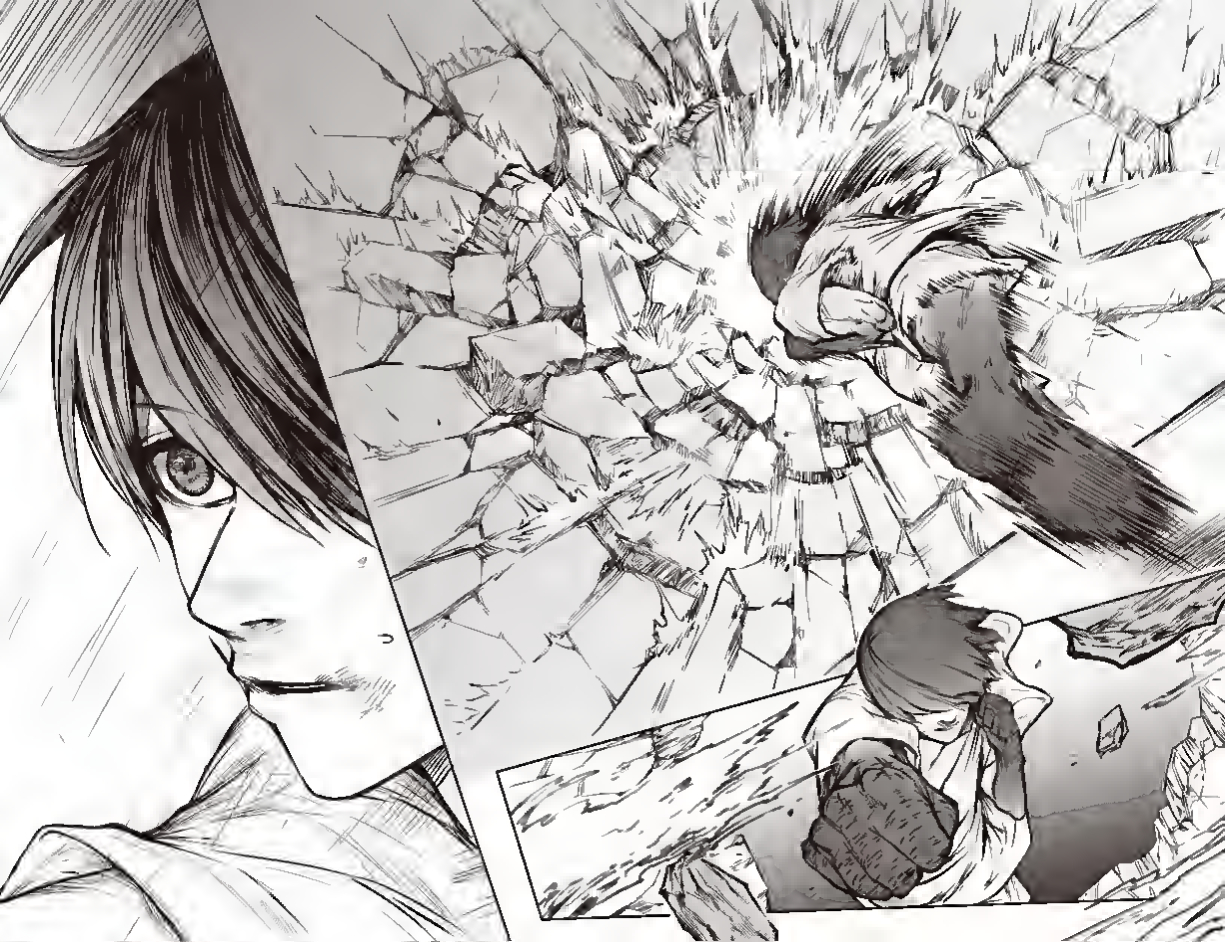
WHEN YOU GET OUT OF THE CAVE...
YOU WILL SEE ANOTHER ISLAND TO YOUR RIGHT.
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL IN THAT DIRECTION, THERE ARE BOATS THAT CAN HELP YOU CROSS OVER TO THAT ISLAND
CATCH HIM!
THERE HE IS!
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN ESCAPE.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO ROW BUT I'M SURE YOU CAN FIGURE IT OUT
!
ウウウウ

THOUGH ...
ONCE YOU GETS TO THE WALL, WHETHER YOU CAN PASS IT OR NOT ...
DEPENDS ON YOU.

A CIVIL WAR HAPPENED.
A FEW YEARS AFTER I BECAME A SOLDIER...
I SHOT A YOUNG CHILD SOLDIER...
WITH MY OWN HANDS
AND IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT WITH THE REBEL FORCE...

EVERYTHING BEFORE ME WAS PITCH BLACK.
ONCE I REALIZED WHAT I HAD DONE
NOTHING MATTERED TO ME ANYMORE.
MY HANDS WERE COVERED IN RED.

DO WHAT I COULD NOT DO
THAT'S WHY YOU MUST RESIST IT
EVEN WHEN EVERYTHING BEFORE YOU HAS BECOME PITCH DARK...
JUST KEEP PUNCHING.



THIS IS THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTI-GATIVE SERVICE.
WE ARE STILL SEARCHING AND ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM THE WHEREA-BOUTS OF THE ESCAPED CRIMINAL WHO HAS ALSO STOLEN ONE OF YOUR BOATS.
OVER.
WHO WAS IT THAT SAID IT WAS FINE TO KEEP THE BOATS JUST OUTSIDE THE WALL?
WE DEPENDED ON THE WALL TOO MUCH.
WE SHOULD REVIEW OUR SECURITY TOO

STILL... HOW COULD HE BREAK THROUGH SUCH A THICK WALL?
GOOD QUESTION ...
I CAN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT THESE HANDS OF MINE HAVE BEEN COVERED IN BLOOD...
BUT EVEN SO... I MIGHT STILL BE ABLE TO CHANGE SOMETHING.
YEAH ...

I THINK
I WILL START BY QUITTING SMOKING.
HE SAVED A FUTURE, WITH HIS FIST

CYAN STEAM
Translation
Stan Miller
Editing
COF